NO_x Reduction by Fuel-Lean Biomass Reburning

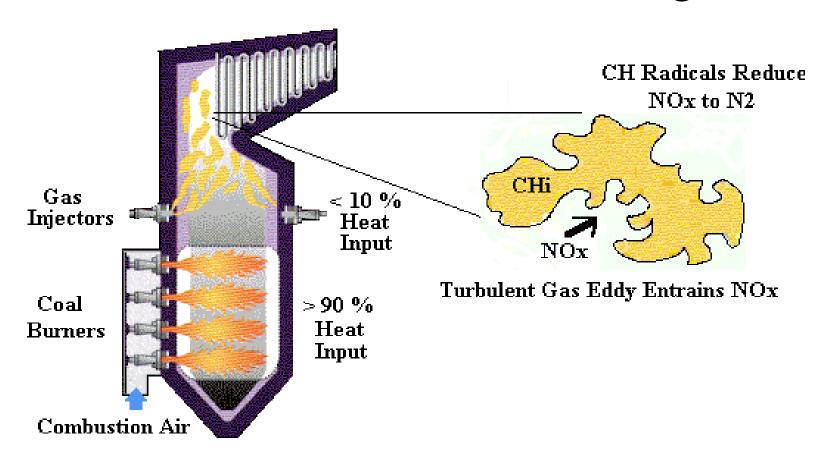
Bernard Breen¹ and Robert C. Brown²

¹Energy Systems Associates, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

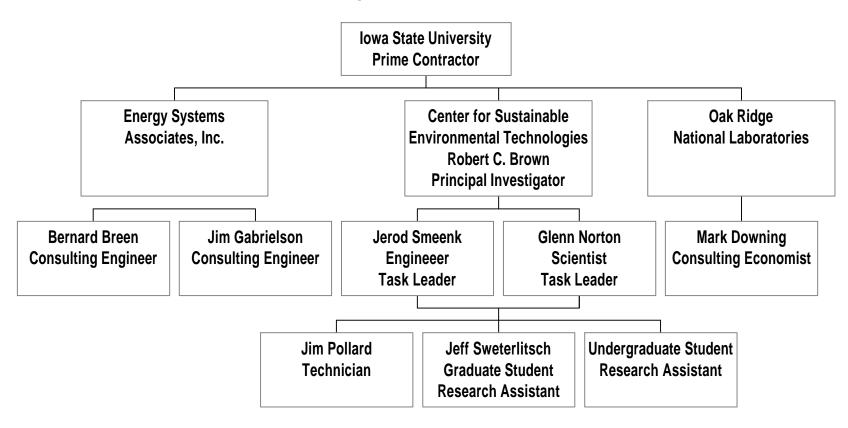
²Iowa State University, Ames, IA

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Fuel-Lean Gas Reburning



Fuel-Lean Biomass Reburn Project Team



Tasks To Be Performed

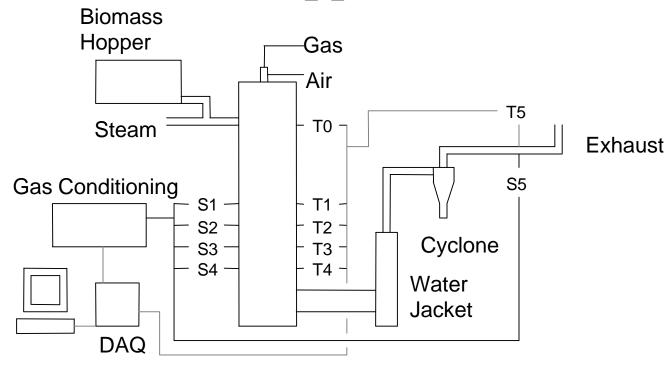
- Task 1 Prepare combustor for biomass reburn fuels.
- Task 2 Instrumentation support for project.
- Task 3 Prepare biomass feedstocks.
- Task 4 Cofire biomass to simulate Fuel-Lean Biomass Reburn in PC/CFB boilers.
- Task 5 Cofire biomass to simulate Fuel-Lean Biomass Reburn in stoker boilers.
- Task 6 Final report.

Tasks in Progress/Completed

Task 1 – Prepare combustor for biomass reburn fuels

- Combustor modified from a previous experimental arrangement to accommodate a longer residence time.
- Cyclone added to the exhaust line.
- A fifth gas sampling port was installed downstream to measure the gas stream at a lower temperature and longer residence time.
- Support structure for the biomass hopper is nearly completed. A steam line will be installed afterwards.

Schematic of Experimental Apparatus



T#: Temperature Location

S#: Gas Sample Location

Down Flow Combustor



Primary combustion zone

- Natural gas burner
 - Natural gas mixed with NH₃ to simulate coal combustion.



Reburning Zone
Biomass injection port



Reburning Zone
Gas sampling ports
(S1 – S4)



Reburning Zone

• Type – R Thermocouples (T1 – T4)



• Exhaust

- Cyclone separator
- Gas sampling port (S5)
- Type-K thermocouple (T5)



Control Panel

- Air, gas, and ammonia flowrates controlled with rotameters and measured with differential pressure flowmeters.
- On/Off switch and automatic burner control.
- Water flowrate for water jacket controlled with rotameter.



Tasks in Progress/Completed

Task 2 – Instrumentation support for project.

- A new NO/NO₂/NO_x chemiluminescence analyzer was purchased.
- A new CO/CO₂ infrared analyzer was purchased.
- New data acquisition instrumentation was purchased.
- Installation and configuration of the above instrumentation will begin in the next few weeks.

Tasks in Progress/Completed

Task 3 – Prepare biomass feedstocks

- Ground switchgrass prepared with a tub-grinder
- Switchgrass-water slurries were prepared
 - 50:50 (wt%) slurry: "damp switchgrass"
 - 15:85 (wt%) slurry: pumpable but thought to be too wet to burn
- Turning focus toward steam-entrained chopped herbaceous fuels (switchgrass and alfalfa)